



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,709	03/19/2001	Masahiro Minowa	81747.0192	9714
26021	7590	07/28/2004		
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P. 500 S. GRAND AVENUE SUITE 1900 LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611			EXAMINER KIANERSI, MITRA	
			ART UNIT 2143	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/812,709	Applicant(s) MINOWA, MASAHIRO	
	Examiner mitra kianersi	Art Unit 2143	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 319/2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 2000-087271.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>Z</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2143

Claims 1-18 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-7, 9-16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kolls (US. Patent No. 6,611,810).

1. As per claim 1, a receipt printing and issuing system having an input device, a printing device, a display device, and a storage device for printing other information in addition to required print information, comprising:

(a) a memory control device for receiving and storing advertising or other additional information, and reading said stored additional information as requested; (Interconnected with microcontroller 532 is an electrically erasable read only memory ("EEROM")516.

Interconnected with microcontroller 532 on-volatile memory 518. Furthermore, the DS1643-120 or DS-1743 can provide a non-volatile date and time function whereby microcontroller 532 can be responsive to events based on date and time and date and time stamp transactions as they occur. Col 11, lines 36-46)

(b) a display control device for displaying from the stored additional information a list of additional information satisfying a particular condition; (the store display window according to claim 1, further comprising a transaction control device connected with said controller for receiving financial data of said user necessary to purchasing at least one product, col 39, lines 37-40).

(c) a selection control device for receiving input selecting additional information from the displayed list, and reading the additional information specified by said input;

Art Unit: 2143

(store display window for allowing said user to select at least one of said products, said electronic commerce terminal facilitating a purchase of one or more of said products, col 39, lines 43-45 and col 40 and lines 1-3).

(d) a print data generating device for generating and sending to the printing device as print data the additional information read by the selection control device.

(applications for the printer 612A can include general-purpose printing, transaction receipt printing, hotel/retail outlet summary report printing, advertisement printing, coupon printing, computer/notebook/laptop/palmtop printing, and hotel/retail outlet activity report printing. Col 18, lines 19-34).

2. As per claim 2, a receipt printing and issuing system, wherein the memory control device receives and stores said additional information input over a network. (equipment can be networked to each other through a first network, abstract)

3. As per claim 3, a receipt printing and issuing system, wherein the selection control device selects at least one item of additional information. (selection of advertising content can be audio only or visual only or a combination of both audio and visual. In the present invention, a "banner" type, "point cast" type, or "multi cast" type advertisement can be displayed on a system 500. In an exemplary embodiment, when a customer desires additional information, audio can be added to the displayed "banner" advertisement to further information the customer. col 34, lines 30-57)

4. As per claim 4, a receipt printing and issuing system, wherein the selection control device automatically reads specific additional information according to a specific rule when a specific time has elapsed. (counter/timer means 508 can monitor time intervals, where vending price may depend on the length of time, a function, feature or vending machine is in use by a customer. Col 11, lines 1-5)

5. As per claim 5, a receipt printing and issuing system, wherein the display control device selectively changes the specific condition for generating a list of additional information presented on the display device. (advertising content displayed on either a system 500 or vending machine, such as PC 630 can be monitored, controlled,

Art Unit: 2143

distributed, and shown by way of network 600 and a universal server. Col 34, lines 55-59)

6. As per claim 6, a receipt printing and issuing system, wherein the print data generating device generates print data by reducing plural items of additional information read by the selection control device to a specific ratio when plural items of additional information are selected. (A distribution profile can direct advertising to a single system 500 located on the network 600 or to a subset of systems 500 (i.e. all PC 630, all copiers, all fax machines, etc.). Furthermore, the distribution profile can direct advertising to the entire population of systems 500 on the network 600. Processing then moves to block 1304. col 34, lines 64-67 and col 35, lines 1-5)

7. As per claim 7, a receipt printing and issuing system, wherein the receipt printing and issuing system is a purchase transaction processing system further comprising: (e) an accounting information control device for registering a product purchase by a customer and outputting accounting information; (such accounts can include customer identification, customer purchasing history, customer credit limits, other customer information, electronic commerce accounts, payment accounts, shipping accounts, local franchise store locations, local in-store customer account information, transaction processing fees due, and other related account detail. Should a customer desire to purchase products through an electronic commerce transaction from a distribution fulfillment center ("DFC") located anywhere in the world, a DII processing step can effectuate the transaction. Col 28, lines 19-28) print data generating device generating print data by combining accounting information output by the accounting information control device with the additional information read by the selection control device for printing as a receipt. (print data can be advertisement print data, transaction summary print data, receipt print data, vending machine print data, such as from a PC 630, or other print data. col 35, lines 34-38)

Art Unit: 2143

8. As per claim 9, an additional information printing method using a receipt printing and issuing system having an input device, printing device, display device, and storage device for storing advertising or other additional information, and printing said additional information in addition to information for a primary purpose, said printing method comprising.

(a) displaying a list of printable additional information; (b) receiving input selecting additional information contained in said displayed list; (c) reading the additional information specified by said input; (d) generating print data from the read additional information; and (e) sending the generated print data to the printing device.

(Interconnected with a printer 612A is the first local area network 622. The printer 612A can be a system 500 in combination with a printer, or print mechanism. In an exemplary embodiment, a printer 612A can be a general-purpose printer for use by a customer, and/or any system 500 device on network 600. Any vending machine or universal server on the first LAN 622 or the second local area network 626 can also access and data communicate with the printer 612A. Applications for the printer 612A can include general-purpose printing, transaction receipt printing, hotel/retail outlet summary report printing, advertisement printing, coupon printing, computer/notebook/laptop/palmtop printing, and hotel/retail outlet activity report printing. Col 18, lines 19-34)

9. As per claim 10, an additional information printing method , further comprising: extracting additional information satisfying a particular condition from the stored additional information, and generating the additional information list displayed in step (a).(In block 904, any acceptable form of identification (ID) presented by a customer or other person in any system 500 connected to the first LAN 622 or the second LAN 626 is read/processed/measured/extracted/obtained or otherwise recorded. Col 26, lines 42-62)

10. As per claim 11, an additional information printing method , wherein the particular condition in step (f) is selectively changeable. (when a "HELP" or "SERVICE" request is resultant from the help desk discovering that service, change, or an adjustment is required, the prescribed service, change, or adjustment can be made over network 600.

Art Unit: 2143

Whether the change is to a system 500, the universal server, or any vending machine (for example a PC 630) interconnected with a system 500 changes can be made by way of network 600. Such service, changes, adjustments, upgrades, and repairs can be effectuated by way of the data communication at any time with or without a "HELP" or "SERVICE" request, transparent to the customer. Col 33, lines 23-31)

11. As per claim 12, an additional information printing method, further comprising:
(g) updating the stored additional information with additional information input by way of a network. (when a "HELP" or "SERVICE" request is resultant from the help desk discovering that service, change, or an adjustment is required, the prescribed service, change, or adjustment can be made over network 600. Whether the change is to a system 500, the universal server, or any vending machine (for example a PC 630) interconnected with a system 500 changes can be made by way of network 600. Such service, changes, adjustments, upgrades, and repairs can be effectuated by way of the data communication at any time with or without a "HELP" or "SERVICE" request, transparent to the customer. Col 33, lines 23-31)

12. As per claim 13, an additional information printing method, wherein step (b) includes selecting at least one item of additional information. (select at least one of said products, col 38, line 20)

13. As per claim 14, an additional information printing method, wherein step (c) includes automatically reading specific additional information according to a specific when selection input is not received even after a specific time passes. (counter/timer means 508 can monitor time intervals, where vending price may depend on the length of time, a function, feature or vending machine is in use by a customer. Col 11, 1-6)

14. As per claim 15, an additional information printing method, wherein step (d) includes generating print data by reducing plural selected items of additional information to a specific ratio when plural items of additional information are selected. (transaction summary print data, col 35, line 36)

Art Unit: 2143

15. As per claim 16, an additional information printing method, further comprising:
(h) registering a product purchase by a customer and outputting accounting information; (accounts can include customer identification, customer purchasing history, customer credit limits, other customer information, electronic commerce accounts, payment accounts, shipping accounts, local franchise store locations, local in-store customer account information, transaction processing fees due, and other elated account detail, col 27, lines 35-57)

wherein step (d) includes generating print data by combining said accounting information with the selected additional information, and sending the print data to the printing device for printing as a receipt. (Any vending machine or universal server on the first LAN 622 or the second local area network (LAN) 626 can also access and data communicate with the printer 612A. Applications for the printer 612A can include general-purpose printing, transaction receipt printing, hotel/retail outlet summary report printing, advertisement printing, coupon printing, computer/notebook/laptop/palmtop printing, and hotel/retail outlet activity report printing. Col 18, 24-34)

16. As per claim 18, a computer-readable data storage medium having computer program code embodied therein for implementing an additional information printing method as described in claim 9. (can upload or download data including program code, col 13, lines 44-45)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kolls (US. Patent No. 6,611,810) above, and further in view of Sleeper (US. Patent No. 6,401,074).

17. As per claim 8, Kolls discloses a receipt printing and issuing system, wherein the receipt printing and issuing system is a customer ticket issuing system. Kolls fail to explicitly teach a queuing number control device for managing queuing numbers and outputting said queuing number as print data; and print data generating device generating and sending to the printing device print data by combining print data output by the queuing number control device with the additional information read by the selection control device. However, Sleeper teach how to queue the generalized messages to a message queuing system, generally provided by a standard operating system within the front-end POS system or within one or more backroom servers and a generator component runs either on the POS system, (col 2, lines 51-55) and the front-end POS system further includes a printing device 110 that prints out a sales receipt at the end of a transaction. (Col 3, lines 6-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Kolls teaching with transaction promotion system of Sleeper to minimize the integration work, system testing, and cost of the entire system.

18. As per claim 17, Kolls discloses an additional information printing method, Kolls fail to teach (i) managing queuing number output and outputting a queuing number as print data; and generating and sending to the printing device print data by combining said queuing number with the selected additional information. However, Sleeper teaches how to queue the generalized messages to a message queuing system, generally provided by a standard operating system within the front-end POS system or within one or more backroom servers. A generator component runs either on the POS system, (col 2, lines 51-55) and wherein the front-end POS system further includes a printing device 110 that prints out a sales receipt at the end of a transaction. (Col 3, lines 6-8).

Art Unit: 2143

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Kolls teaching with transaction promotion system of Sleeper to minimize the integration work, system testing, and cost of the entire system.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitra Kianersi whose telephone number is (703) 305-4650. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (703) 308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mitra Kianersi
July/12/2004


DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100